

**From:** B. L. Jilek  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/13/01 8:10am  
**Subject:** The microsoft curse.

I'm writing to say my piece on Microsoft. I used MS Windows for the first year I used a computer. I was not happy with being held into a certain way to do things on my computer. I found linux then and now No Microsoft software is on any of my computers.

I wanted to learn programming but could not because Software for Windows was too expensive. Hardware was also if I wanted to keep up with the latest Windows version. Linux provided me a way to learn and it came with all the software I needed.

The curse is that I cannot do simple things like visit certain web pages without Internet Explorer. I can't get any game I want to play without having Windows. I can't buy any piece of hardware that I want without having windows. I can't buy a new computer without being forced to pay for windows. This should be stopped.

I don't have anything against Microsoft except for this. I choose not to run their software because I don't like to be locked into one way of doing things. I also don't have the extra money to pay \$200.00 for the upgrade to XP and the extra hardware it would require. I would like to be able to have software vendors writing software for Linux. I would gladly pay for a Linux version of the Newsreader Forte Agent for example.

I would also like to go to a hardware vendor and get Linux version of the drivers for their video cards or what ever.

I would like to be able to play DVD's without having to worry about breaking some idiotic law designed to force people to use windows.

This is all I want. To be on a level playing field and enjoy the same considerations with my chosen OS.

Thank you for listening.

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